

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Rejections under 35 USC 112, second paragraph.

Claim 3 has been amended to provide an antecedent basis for the term "hyperlink", which comes from claim 2. It is respectfully requested that the rejection to claim 3 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph be withdrawn.

The Office Action rejected claim 1, asking for clarification on the convention employed to "automatically generates first executable codes." Applicant respectfully asserts that the specification clearly sets out an example to enable one skilled in the art to generate such executable codes to accomplish reverse referencing of foreign keys. An example for automatic generation of executable codes (in which Java is employed as an example) may be found on page 10, line 13 to page 13, line 3 of the specification as filed. It is respectfully requested that the rejection of claim 1 and the claims that depend thereon under 35 USC 112, second paragraph be withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 USC 102.

The Office Action suggests that at column 11, lines 26-46 of USP 6,212,524 ("Weissman") there is disclosed or suggested the feature of "ascertaining an existence of a first foreign key relationship between first table and second table". Applicant has amended claim 1 to recite that the foreign key relationship is ascertained by the computer-implemented method from the database specification at build time. This amendment is supported by, for example, page 29, lines 3-33 of the specification as filed.

It is respectfully submitted that nowhere in that cited section did Weissman disclose or suggest the feature of amended claim 1, i.e., that the foreign key relationship be ascertained by the computer-implemented method from the database specification at build time. This ascertainment by the computer-implemented method is a key to be able to automatically generate executable codes that obtains, for a first given record in the first table, the number of records in the second table that references the first given record in the manner claimed by amended claim 1.

It is also respectfully submitted that populating tables using code with foreign key is different from the automatic generation of executable codes that obtains, for a first given record

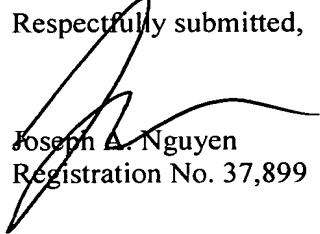
Appl. No. 09/764,321
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Reply to Office Action dated March 6th, 2003

in the first table, the number of records in the second table that references the first given record in the manner claimed by amended claim 1.

With respect to the assertion that by generating a query, the system provides an answer set containing the desired records from both tables, and the conclusion by the Examiner that this feature anticipates the claimed feature of "when said first given record is displayed in a view, also displaying said first number of records in said second table that references said first given record," Applicant respectfully disagrees given the context of amended claim 1. Using SQL to generate data from tables of a relational database is known. The invention of amended claim 1 avoids the necessity of having to build custom SQL codes, whether by brute force or using a form created in advance by someone else (see column 13, lines 12-16 of Weissman), to dereference foreign keys of a table. This is the feature that Weissman fails to teach or suggest, in the context of amended claim 1.

In view of the amendments and remarks herein, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 is novel, nonobvious, and patentable over the cited art. Furthermore, claims 2-7, being dependent on claim 1, should also be deemed novel, nonobvious, and patentable over the cited art. Thus, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited. Applicant hereby petitions for a 3-month extension of time to respond and the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees or credit any over-payments that may apply to our Deposit Account No. 50-2284 (Order No. AMPSP004).

Respectfully submitted,



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